

Program Services Committee Minutes  
May 25, 2007  
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Member Present: Pamela Taylor, James Dennis, Charlotte Rogers, Letreana Braswell, Debra Hurd, Sherri Jo McLemore

Members Absent:

Old Business:

- An overview of the basic duties of the Program Services Committee was provided for new attendees.
- Pam spoke with Pat Page about the need of attention for ILP services. Pam reported that Ms. Page is behind supporting ILP and the Youth Advisory Board. Pam will also follow up with Ms. Pat before the next meeting.

New Business:

- Discussed the possibility of an increase in the number of kids age 14 and up in foster care. This will therefore increase the demand of ILP services.
- Idea was presented that maybe the Youth Advisory Board could make a presentation and testify to the Taskforce on Child Abuse and Neglect. This presentation would be to ask for more funds to be allocated for ILP services so more kids can be adequately served.
- The reason for this decision to go to the Taskforce is because the need for these children impacts so many different systems, which go beyond this agency. If more funds were allocated to ILP services to keep youth in school other systems could be positively impacted.
- It was decided unanimously that this committee will present this idea for approval at the next Advisory Board meeting. The reasons behind this suggestion will also be provided.
- Debra brought up the subject of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). This is a program set up in other states that match foster youth's funds 1 to 1 to allow the foster youth to accumulate money to acquire assets such as cars and houses.
- Debra volunteered to find out more about IDA programs and how they work in other states. Maybe The State of Arkansas could start helping youth with IDAs. It was suggested that she also look into the Good Faith Fund.
- The Thea Foundation provides some scholarships to art students at Arkansas universities. A board member will consult the Thea Foundation about providing scholarships for foster youth.
- The discussion of ILP services are still in progress, but it was decided to move onto to examine other services
- Adoptions are the next service to examine.
- Alden Roller will be invited to the next meeting to discuss adoption issues.

Next meeting will be July 20, 2007 at 11:00 am; tentatively based on Mr. Roller's schedule.